

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01195 150543Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 IO-14 SAM-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /133 W

----- 116984

R 150526Z JUL 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2101

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 1195

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJECT: ELEGANT REPORT ON CHOU

REF: STATE 146596

WE NOTE THAT ROBERT ELEGANT'S STORY REPORTED IN
PARA 22 OF REFTTEL BUILDS PART OF ITS CASE ON FACT
THAT CHINESE REVERSED THEMSELVES ON WHETHER OR NOT
CHOU EN-LAI WAS IN THE HOSPITAL. WE HAVE NOT SEEN
REPORTS THAT CHINESE DENIED HE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL.
ACCORDING TO THE VERSION OF THE STORY WE HEARD HERE,
AFP CORRESPONDENT FLIPO ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
WHETHER OR NOT IT WAS TRUE THAT CHOU WAS CRITICALLY
ILL AS RUMORED OVERSEAS. CHINESE, AFTER SOME HOURS
DELAY, REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NO FOUNDATION TO THE RUMORS.
WHILE THE CHINESE REPLY WAS CERTAINLY DISINGENUOUS, IT
HARDLY LEFT THEM EXPOSED TO LATER EMBARRASSMENT. WE HEARD
NOTHING ABOUT CHOU BEING IN THE HOSPITAL UNTIL JACKSON
MET HIM THERE, WHICH CHINESE THEMSELVES REPORTED IN
"PEOPLE'S DAILY" JULY 6. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANYTHING
ELSE YOU MAY HAVE ON THIS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. IF
ELEGANT IS WRONG, YOU MIGHT WISH TO PASS ON OTHER VERSION.
HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEALTH, MEDICAL CARE, PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PEKING01195
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740188-0612
From: USLO PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740748/aaaabphi.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 146596
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUL 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <27 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ELEGANT REPORT ON CHOU
TAGS: PINT, CH, (CHOU EN-LAI)
To: HONG KONG
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005